



Christian

VIEW-POINT

February 1961



for the Southern California

CHRISTIAN CHURCH FAMILY

Christian VIEW-POINT

Vol.1, No.8

CHRISTIAN CHURCHES (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

February 1961

How Are the Outreach Dollars Used?

Christian Church members in Southern California are interested to know how their offerings to Unified Promotion are used across the world. One way is to know by what arm of the Church they are used. Each \$100 given through Unified Promotion is used as follows:

United Christian Missionary Society	\$ 53.90
Board of Higher Education	0.83
International Convention	1.62
Pension Fund	4.35
Council on Christian Unity	0.42
Board of Church Extension	1.08
Historical Society	0.46
Christian Churches of Southern California	19.90
Chapman College	14.13
Disciples Seminary Foundation	3.31

This does not represent the distribution of the entire outreach dollar; Unified Promotion this year should receive 60.12% of the total outreach dollar. The remaining portion goes to the California Home's operation and their new Health Center, Chapman's new library building, the New Church Advance, Conference Grounds, building funds for the Seminary Foundation, the Southern California Area Office, and the U.C.M.S. Also included are the Week of Compassion and the World Convention.

New Agencies Are In Unified Promotion

This year for the first time Chapman College and the Disciple Seminary Foundation receive their funds for operation through Unified Promotion.

Including the approximate \$100,000 for these two service arms of the Church, Southern California churches need to give \$520,155 through Unified Promotion this year. All service arms in Southern California are supported only by money given by churches of the Southland.

Noteworthy Gain Noted

For the first five months of the church year, ending November 30, 1960, offerings from the churches for the more inclusive Unified Pro-

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motion increased 44.8% over the same period for the previous year.

In order for all the agencies financed through Unified Promotion to receive their full allocation an increase of 48.68% will be needed above last year. The 44.8% for the first five months show that Southern California churches are doing well to see that the mission around the world is progressively supported.

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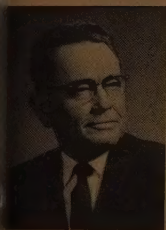
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The VIEW-POINT Reporter Goes To Bakersfield



Dr. D. W. McElroy
Minister

First Christian, Bakersfield, is a church with vision, ever seeking ways of making the Christian faith more dynamic in the lives of its members, as well as giving witness to this faith in the enlarging community where it serves. The two ministers, Dr. D. W. McElroy and Robert Jones, are dedicated to helping this forward-looking church really be the Church.

Two significant objectives have recently been adopted. One is to lift up every phase of the mission of the church through a strengthened functional program. "Our people have come to realize as never before," says Dr. McElroy, "that the work of the church cannot be carried forward except by diligent and consecrated effort, and that one of the best ways to do this is through active functional departments." A second major thrust will be in week-to-week evangelism which involves an extensive and intensive calling and shepherding program. A church membership class will be conducted four consecutive Sunday mornings, by the minister, with one Sunday out before beginning another series of four-class sessions with a new group. The Minister of Christian Education will have classes for children and youth. This program will continue throughout the year with each fifth Sunday being observed as Membership Day.

An extended program for the families of the church was initiated in the Fall of 1959 called Christian Family Fellowship and was continued. From 6:00 to 7:30 each Sunday evening the entire family comes to the church to share in educational activities at

The minister of First Christian Church, Bakersfield, Dr. D. W. McElroy, came there in September, 1955, from a wide background of education and experience. His formal education was received at Texas Christian University with graduate work at Columbia University and Chicago University. Dr. McElroy had served in churches throughout Texas and Louisiana with a special ministry in the Ridgewood Heights Christian Church, Brooklyn, New York.

Brotherhood work has felt the response of his service as he has participated in State, National and International Convention work.

Robert L. Jones, minister of Christian Education, came to serve First Christian Church in Bakersfield in June, 1959. He had attended Chapman College during the years of 1950-1954 and College of the Bible, Lexington, Kentucky, from 1954-1958. He has served Christian Churches at Bellflower, Pomona and Maysville, Kentucky. He has also served in State work in Kentucky. His wife, the former Barbara Hebert of LaVerne, California, also attended Chapman College.



Interior of Sanctuary

the children, youth and adult levels.

The Minister of Christian Education, Robert Jones, who directs this program, evaluates it thus: "A greater number of people are involved in the educational process of the church. There are more contacts with people individually, thus it has helped our own members become better acquainted. It has made our church better known in the community, and also helped our church people become aware of other outstanding Christian leaders here whom they might not otherwise have known. We have

also had opportunity in these sessions for leadership education, and now have in effect the Growing Workers' Plan." He then continued in a description of the successful monthly Workers' Conferences for church school leaders in which teaching demonstration methods are emphasized.

About The Cover

The cover photo is one of the entrance to First Christian Church of Bakersfield. The accompanying article will help the reader become acquainted with this church.

INSPIRATION POINT

Casting Reflections

by Jackie Norwood



Next Summer I know where I want to spend my vacation! I hope to be working again in the general store at Jenny Lake, Wyoming. The store is located at the foot of some of the most magnificent peaks in the world. Here is where the Grand Teton rises over 13,000 feet and sets enthroned above the nine other rugged peaks of the Teton range.

Bounded by lesser mountains, the ten-mile extravaganza of volcanic rock, snow-capped peaks and emerald trees, the Tetons rise as volumes of classical literature held between mammoth book ends.

Nesting at the feet of the Tetons is the diamond-blue Jenny Lake. A short distance from its shore sets the antique looking steeped-roofed general store. It was here in the midst of souvenirs, milk cartons, Indian jewelry and ice cream I waited upon the tourist trade of Jackson Hole.

Bicycling into the village after lunch one day a group of thirty youth from New York appeared anxious for their mail. Clutching their letters in one hand and licking ice cream in the other, they made themselves at home on the front porch and passed the afternoon talking. The next three days the same pattern was repeated only the letters were replaced by comic books and magazines.

Someone half-jokingly asked if they came all the way from New York to read movie magazines or to look at the Tetons.

And noticing the adults who were standing around the jewelry counter one wonders why so many came hundreds of miles but to while away their time doing the same things that could be done at home.

Looking at the lake in the early morning sunlight it seems as though the whole world is hushed except for the occasional fish splashing or the sight of a deer inching its way along the shore. Here in the midst of primitive beauty one feels in touch with his Creator and senses a belongingness to Him. The lake reflects back to the heavens the grandeur of God; everything does, the trees, the rubied flowers and the softly-colored deer. Silver souvenirs and gaudy comic books seem totally out of place by comparison.

The men and women who visited Jenny Lake cast interesting reflections of the kind of God in which they believe. Some apparently worship things and entertainment. Some come seek-

ing to discover the hand of God moving and creating new beauty upon the earth. The latter reflect a kinship to God and others a kinship to "things".

Some asked us, "What do you do around here?" They seemed to feel that there should be additional entertainment to the massive creations of God.

Here at home where man-made creations overwhelm the eye and ear we need to seek those things that reflect our faith and believe in God's power and love. How much more we need to take time to create within ourselves a more noble reflection of that which is eternal.

Prayer: *Oh, Thou who art eternal we bow before Thee. We have seen Thy creating hand at work and lift our eyes in awe of Thy wonders. We offer our humility, our love and our gratitude as meager offerings seeking to make our lives finer reflections of Thy creative work. Amen. **

The writer is presently enrolled at Chapman College as a freshman. She is a member of the First Christian Church of Reseda in the San Fernando Valley where she has served as president of the Christian Youth Fellowship and secretary of the District C.Y.F. For one year she served as State C.Y.F. secretary and attended the 1959 International C.Y.F. Commission in Denver, Colorado.

Know Your Department of Christian Education

by E. Dean Canady

Secretary Christian Education
Christian Churches of California

The department of Christian Education is responsible for coordinating all cooperative Christian education activities among the Christian Churches of Southern California. Working through age-level commissions and District Christian Education Committees, the members of the staff give guidance and counsel to churches in addition to sharing ideas, plans and programs gleaned from many contacts with other churches and district leaders, as well as state and national workers. It is thought that the department can best offer services from which local congregations can receive full benefit only if complimentary district programs are planned. Because districts are close to local churches, the ideas gleaned from district planning sessions can be valuable guides to state programs.

Total Educational Program

Many have thought the department exists merely to serve the youth of the churches, and to train church school teachers. Its responsibilities go far beyond this, for it is concerned with the total educational program of the church. Some have thought of Christian education as being involved almost entirely in the training of the young as over against the church which ministers primarily to adults.

In a church program of education which is balanced and functional, there is no place for such a separation. The growth or learning process is continuous from birth through adulthood. Therefore it follows that Christian education should be as much concerned with the growth and training of adults as it is with the growth and training of children. The church school and other educational activities and agencies in the church become an integral part of the total church program. Christian education is not then conceived as a separate

institution or organization—but as a point of view and method which can be used in all aspects of the church's program.

It is this philosophy the department has adopted and upon which it operates. However, specific areas claim attention, but always with the thought that it serves the total church and not one segment. The areas of concern may be classified under several headings. The first is leadership education. A second is children's work which is generally considered as training adults who work with children. A third is youth education, while a fourth emphasis is that of adult Christian education which is presently upon the threshold of a great new era in church life.

Developing Youth Leadership

It is the intent of this presentation to be interpretative. Only one area of program will be discussed. In the youth field there is offered not only experiences of fellowship and learning on a state and district level, but assistance to church leaders of youth in preparing themselves for more effective work with young people. Since this task is now too large to carry at the state level, much is being relegated to the district Christian education committees. Nor will this task become any less in the foreseeable future.

In mid-winter Youth Meets, conducted for the purpose of missionary education, the churches seek to help young people understand the total mission of the church. Following the missionary education theme and emphasis, an attempt is made to understand how the church serves at home and abroad through mission activity. It is of interest that Christian

Church young people in Southern California have increased their giving to missions through the Christian World Friendship Fund from \$1,900 in 1951 to nearly \$12,000 last year. Much of this increase has been motivated by greater knowledge of what the total program of the church is through their participation in youth meets, conventions, and youth camps and conferences. Local church leaders must take a great deal of credit in lending encouragement to this desire to share.

Camps and Conferences

The summer camp and conference program is a vital part of the total educational task of the church. Increased attendance and greater appreciation of what such an experience can do for young people and adults has caused this to be one of the most important aspects of our church education program. A week in the mountains is not just a recreational experience alone. Often for counselors and faculty members it is anything but a vacation. Frequently it is the most exacting week of the summer, yet a very rewarding one for the opportunity of working with youth. The churches would do well to recognize these summertime opportunities for Christian education as one of the most important phases of its work. A church is rewarded many times over for the effort it puts forth to strengthen its youth program through inter-congregational activities in the summer camp and conference program.

A young person who has a good experience at camp is on the high-road of "finding himself" when,

(Continued on page 6)

IS THE NEW CHURCH

ADVANCE EFFECTIVE?

by RUSSELL HENSLEY

Secretary, Church Development

through the overtones of the camping experience he catches the idea that God can be the center of his life; that he need not feel topsy-turvy, confused, but that with God as the center, he can organize himself, his possessions, his ideas, and his dreams for living.

Work Camps and Summer Caravan Program

Another feature aimed at helping young people understand the total work of the church is the summer caravan program. Selected young people make a cross-country trip visiting home mission institutions, Christian Church colleges, points of historical interest to Disciples, Christian Board of Publication, seminaries, and Missions Building in Indianapolis. Occasionally the itinerary includes a special event as the International Convention of Christian Churches or a trip to another country as this past summer when a high school group went to Mexico as reported in the November issue of the Christian VIEW-POINT. A group of S-OYFers, as a touring group, attended the World Convention in Edinburgh, Scotland, led by one of the staff members.

Guidance and Recruitment

Another service offered by the department is in the field of recruitment and guidance for the Christian ministry. While the department of the Ministry sponsors the program, this department has the privilege of working directly with the recruits in conferences, clinics and seminars on church vocations, and with local church vocation counselors and ministers.

In the foregoing paragraphs, a cursory examination has been made of only a few program tasks carried by the department of Christian Education. Such important programs as leadership education, children's work, student work on the college campus, S-OYF, and adult Christian education through training schools, observation-teaching, and the Adult Fellowship Conferences would require several more presentations which will perhaps follow in subsequent issues of the VIEW-POINT. *

During the Decade it is imperative that 100 new Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) be started in Southern California to keep pace with the population growth. As churches have been projected, it has been necessary to think again the New Church program. The need is to compare the effectiveness of the church in days gone by, take a look at the last two years, and see exactly where the program is going. The future planning can then be structured to begin the 100 new churches in Southern California during the sixties. The committees have taken a good look at this program and have done some comparing. Readers of the VIEW-POINT will be interested to know how the present program compares with the Mid-Century Church Extension.

During the fifties, the program of Mid-Century was an extremely effective one, producing some very outstanding churches. The Mid-Century emphasis was finding property, building a building, and calling a full-time minister, while assisting financially in each phase.

In 1958, a new period in the history of our new church life began in Southern California and the name was changed to New Church Development. At this point, the emphasis was placed on the congregation instead of the facility. A congregation was called together after which property was secured and a building program launched. Temporary ministerial leadership was found as the core group of the congregation was brought together. This was followed by full-time leadership.

The experiment in New Church Development was a period of preparation for the Decade when a much accelerated pace was to be established in order to meet the great challenges the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Southern California was to face.

A comparison of the work of

six years to the work of the past two reveals about two churches per year were organized from 1951-57 and three churches per year from 1958-60. The churches of Southern California were giving an average of \$53,669 per year from 1951-57. In the last two years the average giving was \$41,500 per year. This is rather interesting when we note the change in financial need now being faced by the New Church Advance program.

During the Mid-Century Extension program, the need land-wise was for lots sufficient for the congregation to begin its work. The need now is for acreage. A minimum of three to five acres is sought and purchased before the site can be called adequate. The average expenditure for property during the Mid-Century program was about \$10,000. Now approximately \$50,000 is required for a three-acre site.

The rising cost of living has necessitated an increase of 25% in ministerial salary to assure the caliber of minister needed to lead these churches. Therefore, although the program is costing almost three times more than it did during the decade of the fifties, approximately one-third more churches have been started during an equal period of time. Yet, the giving of the churches to New Church Development is approximately \$12,000 per year less than during Mid-Century.

A look into the Decade emphasizes the need for accelerating this program. The effectiveness will be decimated unless ways can be found of substantially increasing the giving for this purpose or other means of starting these congregations without the use of extensive amounts of financial subsidy is discovered. *

VIEW POINTS

To help answer the question "What is the Church?" the following question was given to Christian VIEW-POINT: "Are 'ham' dinners, bazaars and sewing circles meeting the greatest Christian need?"

The above question was no doubt placed before Anne and myself knowing that we are "anti-church-bazaarists" (not an independent movement). However, the question cannot be answered with yes or no anymore than one could the old catch gag, "Have you stopped beating your wife?" About the only way to answer the question is: "It depends upon the purpose of the ham dinner, bazaar or sewing circle."

As disciples, we have a good biblical precedence to follow in having church dinners as a medium for encouraging fellowship. Even the Lord's Supper itself, so precious to our hearts, is a refined form of the New Testament fellowship meal or *agape*. Perhaps one of the most precious memories the first followers of our Lord had was that of his lifting the bread heavenward at mealtime and asking the Father's blessing upon it. The men on the road to Emmaus did not recognize the Master until the moment he took bread from the table and asked God's blessing upon it. As the Bible says: "their eyes were opened."

People have always used the table with its food to express friendship and friendliness. It is a psychological gesture done to break down barriers by sharing what one has with another and to express one's spirit of generosity. It is also done to honor one's guests. Business and industry certainly use the medium of a meal to a great advantage. Of course they more often add alcoholic beverages in order to over stimulate and then numb the client. This is a false use and makes the table an evil weapon to take advantage of one's fellowman. Neither do we believe

in the use of church dinners for money extracting purposes.

Where we, as minister and wife, feel these dinners and bazaars go wrong is when the fellowship is the minor consideration and money making the major objective. Christians come to a pretty low sense of stewardship when they have to be bribed by food and entertainment before they give to the Kingdom's causes. Personally, we detest bazaars for the very name sounds like an oriental gong struck to summon mammon. Churches which have to depend on dinners, bazaars, sale of sewn articles and such things have either lost or have never had a real sense of stewardship. We know churches which have given up the practice of Christian stewardship and raise a good share of their budgets by means of these phoney sales and "ham" dinners. These churches have slipped down to one-half of what they did when practicing Christian Stewardship. Wherever we have served we have tried to discourage this senseless exchange of white elephant knickknacks which nobody wants but feels he must buy to keep "Mrs. U. Know Who" from having her feelings hurt. Besides this, such a church is cheating organizations like the Salvation Army, Goodwill Industries and Veterans out of their means of livelihood. We have an annual affair which beats the bazaar all hollow for fun and fellowship. It is our annual family night hobby show. No one makes money on it but my, the joy that is found in sharing one's skills and knowledge!

Now as to the sewing circle: again we must say, "what is its purpose?" If it is but an excuse

for a weekly gab fest to find all the "motes and beams" in other people's eyes, then it is downright sinful. But if it is a group of dedicated Dorcas who honestly sew to help others, who get together to make and roll bandages and produce things to brighten the lives of unfortunates and seek to serve the Lord by means of their needle and thread, such women certainly have His hand of blessing upon them. A woman in our congregation, up until her passing into God's eternal realms a year ago, had with her own hands cut out and sewn over 9,900 cloth bags for patients at Los Angeles County General Hospital. The bags were beautifully made and for the purpose of keeping their personal toilet articles. Out of her own funds she often supplied the necessary articles to go in these bags. We have sewing groups in our church doing an amazing amount of this kind of work not only for Southern California institutions but for our mission fields as well. Certainly Paul's words are true: "Grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift."

Let us try to do away with all our money-raising dinners, bazaars, white elephant, sewing circle sales and such schemes. Instead, let us teach our people the real meaning of being Christian stewards. Let us stop depriving our church members of the joy which comes when the tithe becomes the basic standard for Christian stewardship. Instead, let us enjoy church fellowship dinners, fellowship entertainments and fun nights, often using them for educational purposes, and by all means the sewing circle which strives to bring happiness into other's lives. Properly used, they can become good means to help in a Christian's growth. They may not be meeting the greatest Christian need but certainly can help in its stimulation. *

by John and Anne Hedwall
Minister and Wife,
First Christian Church,
Monrovia

FAMILY ALBUM

NEWS



VIEW-POINT "YEAR BOOK" TO BE IN MARCH

The December issue of the VIEW-POINT carried word that the Year Book pages would appear in the February issue. Because the galley proofs from the Year Book did not arrive in the Area Office in time to be included in the February issue, this will be postponed until the March issue.

VIEW-POINT readers, then, should look for some change in format of the inside pages of the March issue.

* * * * *

NEW ASSOCIATE AT SANTA ANA FIRST

Jack W. Pettigrew has been called as the associate minister at First Christian Church in Santa Ana, according to an announcement from their Official Board.

This young man, formerly from Southern California, has completed his graduate training for the ministry at Phillips University and has been serving the church at Skiatook, Oklahoma. He will join pastor Gerald S. Bash in Santa Ana on January 8.

* * * * *

PRAYING HANDS

ALHAMBRA, First—In his sermon "On Making the Most of Prayer", Rev. James Hempstead used an outline of the components of prayer taken from the book "Growing Up With Christ" by Frances Wilkinson. All those who heard the sermon were so taken with the idea they asked that the outline be put in print. *The suggestion is as follows: With the hands in the attitude of prayer, the thumbs are for adoration and praise; the index fingers are for thanksgiving; the middle fingers remind us to confess our sins; the ring fingers are for intercessions on behalf of others; and the little fingers are for our own personal petitions. Try it!*

* * * * *

ARE YOU A STATISTIC?

BURBANK, First—In their newspaper, "The Partyline", the church family is encouraged to keep their membership moving with them. Somewhere along the line our Brotherhood has lost or mislaid one quarter of a million members who have "moved from there but haven't arrived here". Let's do our part to keep the non-resident roll to a minimum.

ADDITIONS AT BARSTOW

The First Christian Church at Barstow presented a fine Christmas pageant on Sunday evening, December 18, "as fine," writes C. M. Ridenour, interim minister, "as I have ever witnessed. The stage setting was really professionally done, and the pageant was tops."

At the close of the pageant the Gospel invitation was extended and two couples plus four marines responded.

* * * * *

RIVERSIDE TO PURCHASE SITE FOR NEW CHURCH

Report has come from the First Christian Church in Riverside that Don Wiseman, chairman of their Board, has appointed the following committee to look into the possibilities of beginning a new Christian church in the Riverside area: William Hughs, chairman, Merle Moore, Burney Montgomery, and Ruby Clark. Mr. Wiseman will serve in an ex-officio capacity. This committee is already giving consideration to a location and has some offers in regard to the acquiring of the property. The church will purchase approximately a four-acre site on which a new church will eventually be built. This project is being worked through the department of Church Advance in the Area Office.

SPIRITUAL LIFE CONFERENCE

Among the leaders for the Spiritual Life Conference at Loch Leven will be Dr. Morton T. Kelsey, Episcopal minister from Glendora. The Conference begins at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28, and continues through March 3.

Karl Croel, former Lansing, Michigan, pastor, will be in Southern California for a first visit in his new position as the secretary of Church Development with the United Society. He succeeds Samuel Pugh and will continue to develop similar conferences throughout the country.

Among other Southern California leaders, Dwaine Cerbin, pastor of Redondo Beach's South Bay Church and president of the 1961 Assembly, will bring his experience of the past two conferences to the February-March meeting.

All plans are being completed under the Southern California Department of Worship of which John W. Messer, Long Beach pastor, is the chairman.

DO YOU KNOW THIS BOOK?

Dr. Clifford A. Cole is the author of THE CHRISTIAN CHURCHES OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. At the time he retired as State Secretary, the Southern California Convention asked him to write this book, and he applied himself diligently to its production. The book represented a great investment of effort as well as money by Dr. Cole.

The author recently decided that the books were not being purchased as widely as they should; their value lies only in people's having them and reading them. Therefore, the book is available at one-half of its earlier price, selling now for \$2.00. These volumes may be ordered direct from Dr. Cole at his home, 132 A South Kenwood, Glendale, or he would be willing to place some of them on consignment with the church for them to be sold in the membership. In some instances Dr. Cole is able to visit the church and present this matter in an evening's message.

With his having done his part, many church leaders will want to do another part by being sure that their purchasing a book will mean that the author does not suffer a financial loss on its production.

* * * * *

DON WEST AT WHITTIER, FIRST

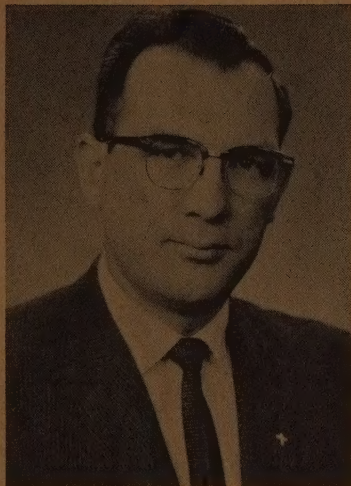
Donald F. West, Executive Secretary of the Department of East Asia of the U.C.M.S., will be a guest evangelism leader at the First Christian Church of Whittier, February 12-19. Dr. West is one of the ninety-five national staff leaders who have volunteered to serve in local churches for a week of evangelistic preaching and visitation between January 1 and Easter Sunday. Sponsored by the Department of Evangelism of the UCMS and co-ordinated by Donald M. Salmon, Executive Secretary, this program has been called "Project Evangelism". The Southern California Department of Evangelism is cooperating with this program in circulating the names of leaders available for this area. While other Southern California churches are considering inviting available leaders, First Church of Whittier is the first (to our knowledge) to do so. Dr. Dallas Gladson, pastor, and the leaders are to be congratulated for taking advantage of this opportunity.

ALMER WILL APPEAR IN DISTRICT MEETINGS

His tours of service in missionary work in Japan, Jamaica, British West Indies, and at the Yakima Indian Christian Mission in White Swan, Washington, uniquely qualify Ralph Palmer as the speaker and chief resource leader for the United Outreach Conferences in Southern California early February.

Mr. Palmer now is the Executive Secretary of the Department of Missionary Selection Training of the United Society. He recruits volunteers for foreign service, counsels recruits and candidates (those in advance stages of training) and supervises their education program. He is the dean of the College of Missions and conducts research projects.

He was married in 1948 to the former Mary Maxine Jones, and the young couple went out to Japan in 1952 from which appointment he returned to the position with the United Society.



Ralph T. Palmer

His part in the Outreach Conferences will be rooted in the wide range of the inclusive Christian Mission and the elements that will be necessary for its advance in the years ahead.

As Southern California Christian Churches look forward to the new church year beginning July 1, 1961, significant leaders from each of the congregations come together to hear Ralph Palmer and to examine what responsibility each congregation has for the total outreach of the congregation. These leaders in turn will take both the inspiration and the information back to their own congregations where decisions will be made as to the extent of their commitment for the first full year of the Decade of Decision.

Who Is Invited?

The United Outreach Conferences are designed especially to reach a small group of leaders in each congregation. It is important that at least those in the following positions participate: the minister and the ministerial staff, the chairman of the church Board, the chairmen of Stewardship and Christian Education, the presidents of Christian Women's Fellowship, of Christian Men's Fellowship, and of Christian Youth Fellowship along with the C.Y.F. sponsor. All members of the department of World Outreach in each congregation are urged to be present.

Because this is a highly important experience of meeting a most capable leader in the mission life of the Brotherhood, other interested persons in congregations are welcome to attend the meetings.

Nearer To The Churches

In order to make it possible for the churches to participate in these meetings, there will be two meetings in at least three districts. The time schedule has been varied according to the travel needs of the team members. This is the schedule:

	Time	District	Host Church
Sunday	Feb. 5 2:00 p.m.	Coastal	Lompoc
Sunday	Feb. 5 7:00 p.m.	Coastal	Ventura
Monday	Feb. 6 7:00 p.m.	San Fernando-Kern	Bakersfield, First
Tuesday	Feb. 7 7:30 p.m.	Metropolitan	Pico-Arlington
Thursday	Feb. 9 7:30 p.m.	San Gabriel	El Monte
Friday	Feb. 10 7:30 p.m.	Orange	Orangethorpe
Saturday	Feb. 11 7:30 p.m.	San Fernando-Kern	Reseda
Sunday	Feb. 12 3:00 p.m.	Harbor-Bay	Hollydale
Monday	Feb. 13 7:30 p.m.	San Diego	Central
Tuesday	Feb. 14 7:30 p.m.	Imperial	Brawley
Wednesday	Feb. 15 7:30 p.m.	San Bernardino-Riverside	Fontana

FORMER GLENDALE MAN WRITES "THE CROSS AND THE STAR"

Major Conner H. Cole, a chaplain in the United States Air Force, recently has completed his first novel, *The Cross and the Star*. Published by the Vantage Press of New York, this is an uncensored story of three men of God—a minister, a rabbi and a priest—who go forth to meet the enemy armed only with their faith, the Cross and the Star, their prayers and their heartfelt convictions.

Major Cole is currently stationed at Fairchild Air Force Base in Washington and is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Clifford A. Cole of Glendale. His novel describes what chaplains in the Armed Forces and the men they serve are really like.

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A SUGGESTION FROM WILSHIRE

A helpful suggestion comes from the columns of the *Chimes* of Wilshire Christian Church in Los Angeles under the head of "Grin and Barrett":

Most of us have concern for the integration problem in New Orleans, and all of us should be proud of the Methodist minister who was willing to take his little girl through jeering crowds of anti-segregationists. New Orleans seems far away, but is it? Equally as devastating as the shouting men and women is the number of people who use Negroes and Jews as the main characters in their jokes. Do we take a stand when this happens?

Would you like to write to Rev. Foreman of Louisiana to tell him how much you appreciate his stand? His address is—Rev. Lloyd Foreman, St. Mark's Methodist Church, 1130 North Rampart, New Orleans, La.

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DECISION DAY NEARS

ALHAMBRA—The First Christian Church is looking forward to March 5th, Decision Day for the Comprehensive Evangelism program under the direction of Bayne Driskill.

The goal of 204 new members was approved at a fellowship meeting and the Evangelistic Department, under the chairman, Jack Hawkins, who is marshalling the forces of the entire church in the effort to attain the goal.

335 members of the church signed prayer covenant cards, pledging themselves to pray daily for a three-month period that God would direct the effort.

James McCallum, formerly minister at the Rivera Christian Church, is engaged to be Minister of Calling, to assist in the cultivation process and to call on other visitors to the church during this period.

BREAK BREAD TOGETHER



WEEK OF COMPASSION FEB. 19-26, 1961

The hunger of more than a billion people throughout the world will be a major concern of Christian groups and governments during the United Nations' five-year "Freedom From Hunger" campaign. Disciples of Christ will be related to this emphasis on acute human need through the annual Week of Compassion, February 19-26, 1961. The theme will be, "Break Bread Together."

The 1961 Week of Compassion goal is \$600,000.

A packet of materials to help the church in its Week of Compassion observance was mailed to each minister in December.

INVISIBLE MAN

NORTH HOLLYWOOD, First—Minister Ray Wallace, singing the praises of Rev. John Wells in his column, "Dots and Dashes", ended with the quip, "he slips in here on Sunday morning and worships with us as inconspicuously as if he were a member of a pulpit committee".

HOOSIER DISCIPLE HEADS NATIONAL COUNCIL

In the triennial meeting of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., Dr. J. Irwin Miller was named its president in San Francisco. Chairman of the Board of Directors of Cummins Engine Company at Columbus, Indiana, the fifty-year-old business man is the first layman to lead the Protestant church organization and first Disciple to hold such a post. He succeeds Dr. Edwin E. Dahlberg, minister of the Delmar Baptist Church in St. Louis, Missouri.

Dr. Roy G. Ross, a Disciple minister, also was re-elected as general secretary.

LEADERS IN THE CHURCH SELECTED FROM YOUTH

VAN NUYS, December 25—Central Christian Church celebrated not only the birth of the Saviour on this day but also a period of growth in the leadership of the church as a dedication service was held for new deacons and deaconesses recently elected.

Different in some degree from the usual service of this type, the newly elected members of the official board were all chosen from the youth of the church. They will serve on the board and be assigned to various committees and functions in the life of the church. With full voting rights and responsibilities, the following were dedicated to their new task: **DEACONS**—Allen Baker, James Burghardt, Don Henderson, James Casey, Sam McMillen, Jr., Mike Mills, Tom Ritchie, Malcom Sears, Jr., Robert Sigars, Jr., Tommy Thornhill, James Vajda, James Wellington, and Everett Woodruff, Jr. **DEACONESSES**—Sheilla Rowden, Barbara Harris, Carol Mercer, Peggy Michky, Linda Jean Nelson, Linda Meekings and Pat Dayhoff.

Bringing the dedication challenge was Dr. Aldis Webb, minister ad interim.

COMING EVENTS

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Feb. 1 | Urban Church Meeting |
| 2 | Decade of Decision |
| 6 | CWF Executive Meeting |
| 5-15 | United Outreach Conf. |
| 10, 11 | CYF Youth Meet, Metropolitan District |
| 10, 11 | CYF Youth Meet, Harbor-Bay District |
| 13 | New Church Advance |
| 14 | Churchman's Foundation |
| 14 | Ministerial Association Meeting, Pomona |
| 16 | Christian Edu. Dept. |
| 17-19 | CYF Youth Meet, San Bernardino District |
| 17-19 | Chi Rho Youth Meet, San Bernardino District |
| 20 | Exec. Committee of Board of Directors |
| 21 | Business and Finance |
| 23 | VIEW-POINT Copy Due |
| 24-26 | CMF Retreat, Loch Leven |
| 24, 25 | Chi Rho Youth Meet, Metropolitan District |
| 24, 25 | Chi Rho Youth Meet, Coastal District |
| 24, 25 | CYF Youth Meet, San Gabriel District |
| 24, 25 | CYF Youth Meet, Orange District |
| 28 | Churchman's Foundation |

HOLLYWOOD-BEVERLY ADOPTS A FAMILY

The Hollywood-Beverly Christian Church, Los Angeles, has sponsored the bringing to our country a family from Indonesia. They are Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Nicolai and their two daughters, Erica, age 8, and Eleonora, age 13. The Hollywood-Beverly church has worked through the Council of World Service in adopting this family. The whole church has surrounded this family with their love in helping them to become adjusted and settled in their new home. The children of the church school have shared their friendliness by giving gifts of toys and books at Christmastime. The church has completely furnished their apartment and assisted in securing employment for Mr. Nicolai. This is truly Christian brotherhood in action.

CWF REORGANIZED AT NATIONAL LEVEL

The C.W.F. offices of the National Office were reorganized at the International Convention in Louisville. This change was made to better serve the local Fellowships. The Department will be divided into the following sections: **Leadership Development Section.** Its work will include development of state and area workers, assistance in district and state workshops and local C.W.F. retreats, and responsibility for the Quadrennial Assembly. **Velva Drees** is the Executive Director and **Leta Bradney**, the director of this section. **Local Fellowship Services Section.** Its work will include correspondence with local Fellowships regarding organization, program and field service. **Katherine Schutze** is the Executive Director of this section. **Program Coordination Section.** This section will prepare and coordinate materials for local Fellowships, such as manuals, program materials, Guideposts for C.W.F. and Headlines for B.P.W. **Martha Faw** is the Executive Director of this section. **Miss Jessie M. Trout** and **Mrs. Mildred Smith** will direct the over-all administration of the Department.

Local Christian Women's Fellowships should address these new sections in reference to their future needs.

WILLING SLAVES

LONG BEACH, North—Can you imagine auctioning slaves at a Christian Church? The Chi Rho department happily sold themselves to church members to do odd jobs and messy chores. The object of the auction was to raise funds for a needy family.

WIDENING USE OF NEW CHURCH VANCE FUNDS

In its November meeting, the Board of Directors of the Christian Churches Southern California was advised of the total prospect for giving to New Church Advance for this year would probably be \$55,467. This amount was reached by adding the "acceptances" received from 54 churches to the amount given last year by the other 68 of the 122 churches who have not sent in outreach acceptances for 1960-61.

The United Outreach Asking had requested \$125,000 for this purpose, of which that amount was to be divided 40% for use in Southern California and 60% for national and world new church development. The 30% would be divided 1/3 for new churches in the United States, 1/3 for new churches in foreign lands, and 2/3 to be used by the Board of Church Extension to make interest-free loans on the purchase of new church sites. On this basis, \$1,568 had been forwarded for the first three months of church year.

However, Southern California already had committed \$51,841 for the current year's use in 11 new church locations in the Southland. New churches receiving support include Temecula, Morro Bay, Hillside in San Bernardino, Downey, the Harbor Church in Newport Beach, San Clemente, Kearny Mesa, Woodland Hills, Lancaster, Barstow and East Whittier.

To its real regret, the Board of Directors found that in this situation it would be impossible to start any new congregations requiring funds during this church year and noted that from October 1, 1960, through June 30, 1961, the 30% of the New Church Advance not sent to national agencies. Instead, it would be used in Southern California new churches in the hope that none of them would have to be closed for lack of funds.

Since it is altogether possible that the amount of income will exceed the prospect of \$55,467, the Board would probably want to apply everything above that amount to the national and world share until the 30% for the entire year had been reached. The response of the churches still can make this a very real year for victory.

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CHI RHO'S WORK FOR MISSIONS

During the Christmas holidays the high grade Chi Rho group of the Westchester Christian Church in Los Angeles sold 97 cans of glazed nuts to raise money for the Christian World Friendship Fund. Barbara Songer and Art Vaughan are sponsors of the group.

SUCCESSFUL BUILDING FUND CAMPAIGN

With their building program moving along splendidly, the members of Central Christian Church in Pasadena recently secured \$137,879 in cash and pledges for their building fund over the next three years. Of the experience, Pastor Wesley P. Ford writes, "I am deeply grateful for what has just been accomplished in the life of our church. The past week has been exciting and the results inspiring."

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NEW C.M.F. AT ARCADIA

A new Christian Men's Fellowship was chartered on December 7, 1960, at the Arcadia Christian Church with 30 men present. Officers elected and installed are Richard Parish, chairman, John Hill, vice chairman, and Harvey Treickler, secretary-treasurer. Willard Dorsey is the pastor. State officers who participated in the organization of the group were the director, Tom Green; state chairman Claude Mason, and district chairman, Arlie Hollenbeck. The minister and laymen are working together in strengthening the witness of their church in the community as well as through the district, state and national program.

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A RIDDLE WORTH KNOWING

WHITTIER, First—This congregation has granted Eugene Riddle, their Minister of Music since 1950, a sabbatical leave until September 1, 1961. Mr. Riddle plans to tour Europe to make a comprehensive study of choral techniques to be used as material for a doctorate.

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PLANNING THE FAMILY VACATION?

It may seem early, but some families are asking for summer camp and conference dates. Make a note of these dates. Posters and application forms will be available about May 1.

1. June 17-24	C.Y.F.	Loch Leven
2. June 25-July 1	C.Y.F. Commission Conference	Loch Leven
3. July 1-9	Chi Rho Camp (San Gabriel Dist.)	Bethany Pines
4. July 1-8	Niners Conference	Loch Leven
5. July 8-15	Chi Rho Conference	Loch Leven
6. July 19-29	Chi Rho Camp	Bethany Pines
July 29	Youth Assembly	Chapman College
7. July 29-August 5	Chi Rho Conference	Loch Leven
8. August 5-12	Chi Rho Conference	Loch Leven
9. August 12-19	C.Y.F. Conference	Loch Leven
10. August 16-26	Chi Rho Camp (San Diego Dist.)	
11. August 19-26	Chi Rho Conference	Loch Leven
12. August 19-26	Niners Conference	Idyllwild
13. August 19-26	C.Y.F. Conference	Loch Leven
14. Aug. 26-Sept. 2	C.Y.F. Conference	Loch Leven
15. September 2-9	C.Y.F. Conference	Loch Leven
16. September 2-9	S.O.Y. Pack Trip	

WANTED! UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

The First Christian Church of Riverside is now actively participating in the United Christian Campus Fellowship at the University of California at Riverside. Rev. Max Ullom serves as University pastor and Rev. Edgar Weakland, Minister of Christian Education at First Christian, serves as Christian Church University chaplain and member of the Board of Trustees. An excellent program has been made available to the students of the University at Watkins House, the University religious center.

A great need now faces this program—students! A recent state law prohibits the information relating to church affiliation to be made available to the religious student fellowships. It is therefore requested that all churches who know of students attending the University of California at Riverside send their names and addresses to Rev. Edgar Weakland, 4055 Jurupa, Riverside. In this way a fine Christian service can be made available for these students on their campus and in their University community.

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WEDDING WITHIN PARSONAGE FAMILIES

On December 27, Barbara Ruth Searle became the bride of Kenneth Elwin Ford at the First Christian Church in Burbank. Both of them are students at Chapman College.

Barbara is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry L. Searle, and her father in September became the state secretary for the Christian Churches of Oregon. Kenneth is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Wesley P. Ford of Pasadena, where his father is the pastor of the Central Christian Church.

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SPECIAL RECOGNITION

All Peoples Church and Community Center gave a special recognition to Mrs. Josephine Elias in connection with their Christmas program on December 18.

In September, Mrs. Elias completed fourteen years of service as the cook for the nursery-kindergarten in All Peoples Community Center.

Each one at the Center and at the Church had known of the devoted and able work of Mrs. Elias and holds in common an endearing love for her who has become so much a part of All Peoples.

► **San Francisco**—Tom Green attended the special men's meetings in connection with the Department of United Church Men of the National Council of Churches, held in San Francisco in December. The speakers for these meetings were Dr. Billy Graham, Jap Patterson, Dr. Dahlberg, Brink Haye and Bill McKinney.

KEEPING TIME

BURBANK, First—Have you ever wondered how much time we owe God if we tithe that most precious of all things? In recruiting workers for all departments of the church, Burbank, First, says we are time-tithers if we give a minimum of four hours a week in service to the church.

CALIFORNIA HOME PRESENTS PLAY

Temple City Christian Church was host to the ministers and their wives of the Christian Churches of Southern California on Tuesday, December 6, 1960.

About two hundred attended the meeting. Ruth Kadoni was the speaker for the day, and ladies from the California Christian Home presented a fine Christmas play.

Mary Lou Savage is president of the Ministers' Wives organization.



REPORTS

Howard Kelley Resigns

Howard E. Kelley, assistant to the president of Chapman College, has resigned to accept a call to become the minister of the Barrett Avenue Christian Church of Richmond, California. He will assume his new position in January.

During his five years at Chapman he also served as Admissions Counselor for four years and Alumni Secretary for five years. Mrs. Kelley has been serving as secretary in the Admissions Department for the past few months.

Former ministries include Rialto, First Christian, and the Monroe Street Church in Los Angeles as well as the First Christian Church of Alameda, in Northern California.

Homecoming

The Centennial Alumni homecoming was an outstanding occasion. The queen was Miss Judy Cook of Modesto. Princesses were: Miss Sara Jane Tyler, Tulare; Miss Phylliss Boettcher, Anaheim; Miss Jeannie Williams, Anaheim and Miss Judi Barnett, Santa Monica. Their presence added to each event.

On Friday evening, December 9, the basketball team won an exciting game from Sacramento State by a score of 75-73.

Saturday afternoon there was a parade through the city of Orange with several floats by college groups and bands from neighboring high schools.

Library Fund Grows

The Centennial Library Fund is gaining momentum. Over 50 individuals, business men, and churches have already sent cash gifts and many others have made three-year pledges. The largest gift received to date is for \$10,000. There have been several for \$1,000 or more.

The brochure, "Accent on Excellence" is being widely distributed. Many business leaders in Orange County and Foundations across the country are reading the brochure and listening with interest to our plans to build eight new buildings at an estimated cost of \$7,000,000 as fast as funds are available.

A time of rapid growth

Stimulating and practical books for
NINE- TO FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLDS
to develop church membership awareness

Choosing the Way, by Joseph A. Houston. These 64 pages of plans and work sheets cover steps to becoming a follower of Christ, Christian growth, living with others, and information about the Disciples of Christ. 75 cents.

I Choose the Way, by Doris Clore Demaree. Included in this 32-page book are stories, poems and clear statements about our basic beliefs on God, Jesus, baptism, being a Christian, and the Disciples of Christ. 40 cents.

We Learn About the Church. Salient points of information basic to becoming a member of the church are covered in this six-unit study course. 25 cents. Leader's guide, by Mabel Metzger, 15 cents.

And a special book on membership for
young people and adults:

The Art of Church Membership, by George Voiers Moore. An excellent book dealing with all phases of churchmanship, it yields itself to several uses: as a gift to those uniting with the church and as a text for classes of new members or as the basis for discussion periods. 75 cents.

CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
Box 179, St. Louis 66, Mo.

Our High Giving Potential

Often heard is the statement—"Of course we would like to give more to church but we just can't. It is only more difficult to make both ends meet today than ever before." How true is this statement?

In 1929, the American income was approximately 80 billions of dollars. Basic living costs (food, clothing, shelter) amounted to about 55 billions, leaving a difference of 25 billions or 31.25% of income for discretionary spending. Four years later income of America had decreased less than 50 billions, the basic cost of living was 49 billion dollars, leaving a difference of a billion dollars or less. For many people the income was absorbed by basic costs.

The income of America has continued to climb until last year it reached the peak of nearly 370 billions. Basic cost of living likewise increased, but did not exceed 140 billions, leaving a difference of 230 billions or 62.16% of income to be spent by Americans at their discretion. These figures are based upon incomes after taxes have been deducted.

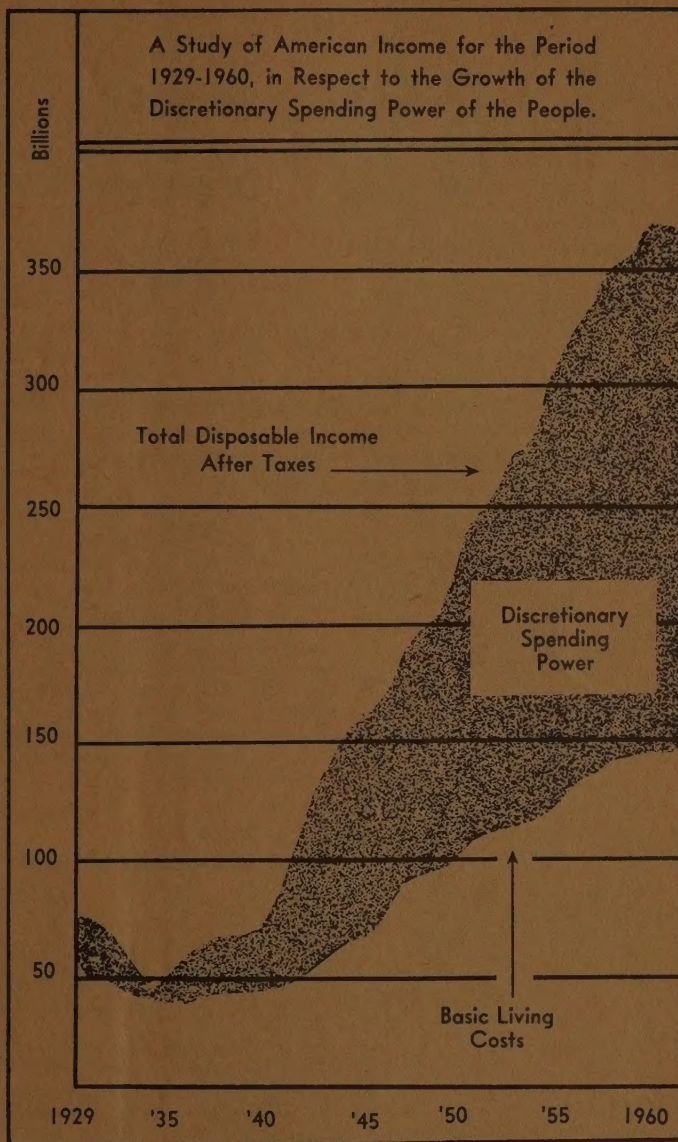
In other words, the typical American family is in financial difficulty there by choice. The future is mortgaged, not for necessities but for wants. Churches can render a real service to many families through guidance in family budgeting and assistance in the establishment of priorities based upon Christian service and stewardship. At the same time such a program would release additional resources for Christian work, both local and world wide.

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CALIFORNIA CHRISTIAN HOME

Two recent additions to the membership of the California Christian Home family are of interest to Southern California readers. On December 1, Mrs. Fay Hughes entered from the University Christian Church of Los Angeles. She is the mother of Mrs. John Ross of our Congo mission. Also, on December 21, just in time for Christmas, came Mrs. Clara Burquist who is the only living charter member of the Brea Christian Church. Both of these good women were heartily welcomed by staff and guests at the Home. The number in residence climbed to one-hundred and eleven with their arrival.

Long after Christmas, the offerings from the churches and the generous supply of White Gifts continue to come in. The large storage room is again well stocked with food and materials provided by the churches during the holiday season.



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HELLO TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROM FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

A letter was recently received by Mrs. Ada Harsin from Mrs. Eva Fleming, formerly a member of the Children's Work Commission as representative for the Harbor-Bay District, telling of the long Alaska nights, the great rugged country and of the busy chapel program. Her husband, Clyde Fleming, serves as Air Force chaplain there.

Along with personal greetings to their many friends came also a check to be credited to Unified Promotion.

NEWS OF FORMER RIALTAN

Dean McGrew was the pastor of the Rialto First Christian Church for several years, and now makes his home in Gibson City, Illinois. A letter from Mrs. McGrew tells that her husband was critically ill last winter. She continues, "We are residing in Gibson City, Illinois. I am thankful to say that Dean has sufficiently recovered to preach and is taking care of some funerals. However, we are not on permanent charge but expect to be after the first of the year."

The McGrew home is at 517 North Lawrence Avenue in Gibson City.

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C.W.F. QUADRENNIAL DEADLINE

State quotas for the Quadrennial Assembly at Purdue University July 19-23, will not be held after February 1, 1961. After this time, registrations will be received on a first come basis. So it is important that Southern California women do not delay in sending in their registrations to this outstanding gathering. An attendance of 4,500 women is expected. Registration, including meals and lodging for the four-day meeting, will be \$45.00. Registration deadline is June 1, 1961.

The Assembly theme is "Choose Ye This Day". An outstanding program is being planned, which includes a drama by a Texas drama group, a 400-voice Quadrennial Choir, the "Elijah" presented by the Don Neuen Chorale of Indianapolis, and Bible lectures by Dr. Dale Friers, president of U.C.M.S.

Application blanks and brochures are available from the Area Office, 3126 Los Feliz Boulevard, Los Angeles 39.

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WHO'S WHO

SAN DIEGO, University Church—This church family was proud to note the name of their minister, Rev. Joseph Ray White, listed in the 1960 edition of "Who's Who in the West".

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WHITTILING DEFICITS

TEMPLE CITY—Every financial department of a church is on the alert for ways to keep pledges current so we offer this idea picked up from the Temple City Church paper. Quote: "It is easier to catch up if you divide the amount you are behind by the number of weeks you need to catch up and add this amount to your pledge". Simple?

WEAKLEND MAKES GOOD RECOVERY

Edgar Weaklend, minister of Education at First Christian in Riverside, and his family had a serious automobile accident while on their way to the National Council meeting in San Francisco. Their car was demolished. Mr. Weaklend has made good recovery from a badly cut tongue and his family also has improved steadily. For the seriousness of the damage to the automobile, the family members were most fortunate in their personal injuries.

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MAJOR ADVANCE AT BETHANY TOWERS

Bethany Towers, in Hollywood, now has completely qualified and has been licensed by the State of California Department of Social Welfare to conduct an institution for aged persons.

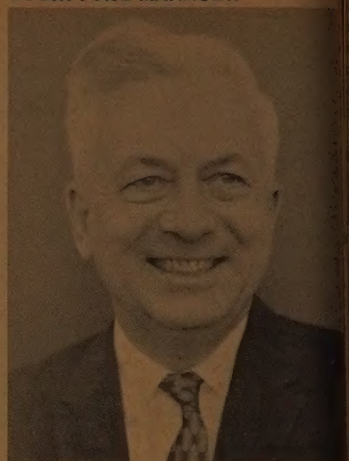
C. P. Von Herzen, president of the Board of Directors, says, "Since we first acquired the fine apartment house at 1745 Gramercy Place, we have worked toward this goal. It means that we now are able to afford full life care for those who become members of Bethany Towers. The exacting requirements of this license give the fullest advantage to the members."

Forty-one members now are in residence. New members are moving in almost as rapidly as workmen are able to remodel the apartments the new people select.

Inquiries may be directed to Mrs. Betty Montgomery at Bethany Towers. She will be able to provide full information on opportunities that are available to aging persons.

Christian Churches in Southern California also will be gratified at the steady achievement which was authorized by the Convention in 1957.

ALBERT BUNNEY CHOSEN BOOKSTORE MANAGER



Albert F. Bunney, minister for eight years of the Highland Park Christian Church in Los Angeles, has been selected by the Christian Board of Publication to manage the new Bethany Bookstore in Los Angeles. Mr. Bunney will relinquish his work at the church on February 15, 1961 and begin his duties with the Bookstore on February 16, 1961.

Remodeling Begun

Location of the Bookstore will be at 3114 Los Feliz Boulevard, Los Angeles, next door and adjoining the Christian Churches Area Office. Remodeling of the 4,000 square foot area, began in January and is to be completed during February. The "Open for Business" will be near the end of February or the first of March. An "Open House" celebration will be held during March in conjunction with that of the Area Office.

A Complete Store

Interior remodeling will include a complete air conditioning system, new floor covering, lighting, special fixtures and painting. Some exterior work will be done to enhance the appearance of the building.

A complete line of curriculum materials, books, church furnishings, choir robes and audio-visuals will be available.

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JAMES SUGGS TO INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

James C. Suggs has been appointed the Director of Interpretation for the Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) according to Dr. Gaines M. Cook, the Executive Secretary of the International Convention. He leaves a similar position as Director of Public Relations for the Texas Board of Christian Churches in Fort Worth and assumed his new duties on February 1, 1961.

by Lewis R. Eloë, Minister

Director, Northridge Family Counseling Center

Anxiety in Children

The modern image for parents is that they must be poised, beautiful, calm and at all times at ease—completely void of anxiety. The image of their children is that they must be brilliant, courteous, obedient and polite—at all times void of anxiety. On closer examination we are willing to admit these modern mental images are unrealistic. Nevertheless, many people strive for impossible images. One feeling that people try to escape is anxiety. Because of the general awareness of anxiety, our time has been called an 'age of anxiety'. Anxiety, of any kind, is a feeling which most people try to escape!

However, to escape or to be rid of anxiety is an impossibility. Anxiety actually is a necessary part of life. It helps us to anticipate future experiences—pleasures and dangers, which are important to life.

What most people are concerned about is 'over anxiety', which causes great anguish and mental suffering.

To better understand anxiety in ourselves and children, it would be well to know how it develops. Anxiety is absorbed by the infant from the emotional climate of the mother. If the mother is anxious when she handles the baby, the baby being sensitive picks up the mother's anxiety. On a small de-

gree this may be valuable to an infant, but if the mother is over anxious—say, over her marriage, finances, personal feelings about the baby or herself, etc.—her baby can become over anxious and develop deep feelings of insecurity.

Anxiety develops in babies through startling noises, shocks, loud and foreign sounds. Experimental psychologists have been able to measure the amount of shock in babies to determine the level of tolerance. (Shock responses and anxiety in infants are equated). They have discovered that some children are more susceptible to anxiety than others, and from birth you are able to notice the over-protecting or over-controlling child.

Since the baby is introduced to reality through his senses, the objects and noises of the outside world are a necessary part of his development, even though they produce a slight amount of anxiety. The baby learns to anticipate anxiety and starts to develop an awareness of life outside himself. The anticipation of anxiety is a healthy and necessary growth process. However, it is important that the process is gradual and not one of shock, turbulence or neglect.

As the child grows, he handles his anxiety in different ways. Often now, he no longer cries when he is anxious, as he did when he

was a baby, but expresses it in other ways.

Anxieties are also relieved through imagination. Often, the little 'white lie' is seen as truth to the child, but the wise parent sees and handles the whole experience as a release of anxiety.

Children release anxiety through play, and the cowboy gun or imaginary friend is used.

The dreams and 'nightmares' are expressions of anxiety. In dreams a child works through anxieties that cannot be handled in any other way.

Parents can help their children handle anxiety by being aware of the various avenues through which it is released. Awareness can help prevent the parents from becoming over anxious themselves, and hence act on the child's level.

Often, children develop certain 'acting-out habits' because it 'gets to' the parents. Children are aware of the sensitive points of their parents and they try to use this knowledge to satisfy their own needs. In cases like this, parents do not need to become 'stone walls' but simply not be affected by the 'testing antics' of the child.

Parents can aid by allowing their children to talk through some of their anxieties. If children can talk out their feelings, many times this relieves their need to act them out. Of course, the parents need to be the type their children can come to with their problems.

Success activities can help to relieve many growth anxieties in children. Constructive projects that build self-confidence are valuable. It is like the old saying, 'nothing succeeds like success,' and anxieties are relieved through success.

It is valuable to remember that one can never get rid of all anxieties, but they can be handled and put to constructive use!

Also of great importance is the accepting, understanding parent who is not constantly critical of the children but who finds pleasure in them as they are. *

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